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SUBJECT: JAPAN TO SUPPORT UNSCR TO EXTEND MNF-I

REF: A. STATE 188249

[1](#)B. STATE 188677

Japan will support a United Nations Security Council Resolution to extend the mandate of Multinational Force - Iraq for an additional year, according to Yuko Noda, of MOFA's United Nations Policy Division, and Takahiro Sato, of MOFA's National Security Policy Division. Embassy Tokyo Political Officer, joined by British counterpart, called on Noda and Sato November 20 to deliver reftel A talking points, draft resolution, and letter from Iraqi Prime Minister al-Maliki. Political Officer also provided a copy of the Secretary's letter to the UNSC president, per reftel B. Noda

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and Sato noted that Japan hopes the resolution will be passed as soon as possible, hopefully no later than November 24 so that Tokyo can begin to take steps to renew its Basic Plan under which Japanese Self Defense elements operate in Iraq. The current plan will expire December 14. When asked whether Japan will cosponsor the resolution, Noda replied that this was still a question under consideration.
SCHIEFFER